

REMARKS

Prior to this Amendment, Claims 1-9 were pending in the application. Claims 1-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,414,444 to Britz in view of Japanese Patent Application Publication No.11-264960 to Shiin; and Claim 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Britz in view of Shiin and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No .2001/0036845 A1 to Park. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Britz in view of Shiin and further in view of Japanese Patent Application Publication 2002-359678 to Masami et al.

As indicated above, Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been presented. Claims 1-9 are now pending, with Claim 1 as an independent Claim.

Regarding the §103(a) rejection of independent Claim 1, which has been amended to recite “a first lens housing, shaped as a cylinder so that the first lens housing can be rotated about a first rotating axis extending in the longitudinal direction of the first lens housing,” Claim 1 is not taught, disclosed, or suggested by Britz and Shiin. Britz discloses two cylindrical concentric ring supports 701 and 702, but as shown in FIG. 7, the rotational axes do not extend in the longitudinal direction of the concentric ring supports 701 and 702. (Britz, column 4, lines 16-23, FIG. 7). Further, Shiin does not cure the deficiencies of Britz. Shiin discloses a lens housing 3, but the rotational axis does not extend in the longitudinal direction of the lens housing 3. (Shiin, FIGs. 1, 3, and 4). Therefore Britz and Shiin, neither alone, nor in combination, teach, disclose, or suggest all of the claimed features of Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 1 is patentable over Britz and Shiin. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 is respectfully requested.

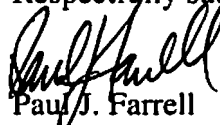
Claims 2-9 are dependent claims, and are believed to be in condition for

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Claims 2-9 are dependent claims, and are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the reasons given above with regard to independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-9 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", is written over the printed name.

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